

SP Brightwell Family, Papers, 1860-1996  
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## INTRODUCTION

The papers consist of the personal papers and business ledgers of the Brightwell family, particularly those pertaining to the land deeds and business dealings of John Brightwell (1861-1950) from Taney County. Also included is genealogical information for the Brightwell family and family stories as told by Hillary Brightwell.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Hillary Brightwell on 25 March 1991 (Accession No. 2), 27 March 1995 (Accession No. 3), and 15 September 1996 (Accession No. 4).

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Brightwell was born December 10, 1861 in Millville, Woodford County Kentucky. He was the son of Thomas Brightwell and Mary Ann Tyre. He moved to Missouri in 1876 at the age of 19 and settled in Protom, Taney County, Missouri. He would live in the same place for seventy years, constructing every building with his own hands. He married Fannie Effie Clark in March of 1894 and together they had ten children, seven boys and three girls. John Brightwell died September 16, 1950 and is buried in Protom Cemetery. John's son Hillary moved to Springfield where he was proprietor of Brightwell's filling station and the Rest Haven Court motor court on Route 66. Rest Haven Court, looking much the same, remains an icon of the Springfield Route 66 era in Missouri.

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- f. 2 Homestead Claims, 1892-1907
- f. 3 Correspondence, 1931-1935
- f. 4 Genealogy
- f. 5 Business Ledger, 1912
- f. 6 Family Photos and Stories
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